

THE ARGUS.

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Saturday, January 1, 1916.

Rock Island—From River to River.

Well, it's 1916. If you do not believe it, look at the calendar.

Germany has taken time from home troubles to officially recognize the Carranza government in Mexico, which shows a bit of worthy appreciation of what President Wilson is trying to bring about.

It is announced that the wealth of the stockholders in Standard Oil has more than tripled since the comic opera dissolution in 1911. People laughed at the time, but would have roared had they known how good it was really going to be.

It would not be amazing if Germany and her allies came out of this war with stronger attachments and friendship for the United States than in all history. Germany admires a self-respecting nation that intelligently upholds its rights.

ANOTHER DIPLOMATIC TRIUMPH.

In spite of the doubts and fears of even his own party leaders in Washington, in spite of partisan critics eager for an opportunity to see him trip or fail, President Wilson has scored again in his peerless but firm diplomacy in the case of the Italian steamer Ancona torpedoed by an Austrian submarine with Americans aboard.

The dual monarchy, the ally of Germany in the great European war, has acceded to all the contentions and demands made by the American government.

Thus has another crisis been safely passed through the statesmanship of President Wilson without the loss or sacrifice of American prestige but rather with a gain to American rights on the seas all over the world in war as well as peace.

The Wilson administration has successfully stood another test and the honor and dignity of the United States and the right of its citizens upon the seas have been acknowledged and recognized.

SOME FIGURES ON EXPORTS

In the first 10 months of 1914 the United States sold Germany goods to the value of \$155,958,815. In the same 10 months of 1915 our direct sales to Germany were only \$17,887,897; a decline of \$138,070,918.

Was this tremendous falling off made good by indirect exports to Germany through neutral countries around her? A certain section of British public men seem to think so, and there is a certain superficial warrant for their belief.

While American sales to Germany dropped almost to the vanishing point, American sales to Denmark for the first 10 months of this year showed a gain of \$41,881,692 over the same period of 1914; those to Holland a gain of \$45,624,493; those to Norway a gain of \$24,517,394; and those to Sweden an increase of \$57,336,523. The increase of American exports to these four countries combined comes to \$169,369,012; or \$15,689,944 more than the decline of exports to Germany.

This, however, is a very superficial view. Doubtless a part of the excess imports to Holland and the Scandinavian countries has been passed on to Germany. But our exports to Spain, Brazil, Cuba and Argentina all show big gains this year, and no one has accused these countries of being buying agents for Germany. The explanation is simple; the exports of the countries at war have dropped because their people are engaged on war material for use at home; and the shortage has to be made up from neutral countries.

Meanwhile, our exports to the United Kingdom have more than doubled, those to France have increased nearly fourfold; those to European Russia and to Italy fully fourfold; and those to Asiatic Russia were 27 times as great in the first 10 months of this year as during the same period of 1914. Germany and Austria have been cut off from this vast reservoir of supplies by the British fleet.

BUT THE GRIPPE Baffles US.

The latest returns of the census bureau, just published, show the United States to be the healthiest place on the face of the earth.

According to the figures for 1914 the death rate in this country is now 13.6 per 1,000 of estimated population—the lowest death rate on record.

To make it even clearer, the report shows that there were only 19 deaths in 1914 where there were 11 a decade early—a total of 38,500 lives in 1914.

This result is gathered only from statistics from registration districts. Unfortunately all communities do not register accurately the vital statistics, but 25 states and the District of Columbia do. From these sources and from 32 cities in states that do not

keep complete statistics the census bureau's death rate returns were gathered.

Incomplete as the returns are, it drives home two points: First, the all important need of nation-wide registration of birth and death statistics.

Second, the need, now greater than ever of the fight to prevent disease. Already it is showing signs that it is saving of lives—and the fight!

PAN-AMERICANISM.

The feeling of mutual and interdependence which pervades the sessions of the Pan-American congress now being held in the city of Washington is most happy augury for the future of the various republics occupying the American continents. Gone are the old suspicions and distrusts. In their place exist a sentiment of friendship and a feeling of confidence. To Woodrow Wilson must much of the credit for this improved state of international opinion on the American continent be credited. The public utterances and acts of President Wilson throughout his term have been of a nature to inspire the confidence of the sister republics of America in the honorable intentions of this government. Unfortunately, the course of the United States in some previous instances had excited a feeling of suspicion and resentment among Latin-American governments that could not but be harmful to the best interests of this country.

The rape of Panama from Colombia by Roosevelt and his insolent assurance that the "Latin-American states have nothing to fear from us as long as they behave" hurt the United States so much in the estimation and confidence of all the other American republics that it is little less than miraculous that the conciliatory, frank and honorable course of President Wilson should in three short years have wrought the change that is now apparent. Assuredly, if nothing else in his administration were unusual, the brilliant results of the president's Pan-American policy would be a sufficient monument to his public services.

That the American republics now feel that their interests are identical and their prosperity and progress to be served by the spirit of Pan-Americanism, the speeches at the opening of congress bore eloquent testimony. United in bonds of mutual helpfulness, sympathy and understanding, the American republics will be a tower of strength to themselves and to the world, for the promotion of international justice and amity, and the resistance of international wrong.

No European power or combination of powers would dare to attempt the perpetration of aggressions such as have prostrated Europe against the weakest American republic with the knowledge that every other American republic would fly to her defense. And that is the guarantee that Pan-Americanism will bring to every American republic.

In his address to the Pan-American congress, Secretary Lansing followed the lines of President Wilson's message to the congress of the United States, where it dealt with American relations, and aptly described the relations which are coming to exist among the American republics as a family relation, in which every member is ready to help any member. This does not mean, of course, that any American state will be upheld by its sister states in wrong-doing, but it does mean that in every proper movement for the betterment of conditions in law, commerce and friendship the American republics should stand together. The Pan-American congress gives every reason for hope that they will.

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES.

The magazine called Prosperity undertakes to express the opinion of the republican party leaders. It says:

"Being president of the United States is really a rather matter-of-fact job. There is no constitutional requirement that a president shall undertake to regulate the universe, make the earth over into a Utopia, or impress his own academic ideas of citizenship as static conclusion of civilization."

In other words, no ideal rubbish. Just sane old Mark Hanna common sense.

How about the standard-bearer to fit such a banner?

"He may hail from New England!" Weeks.

"From New York," Wadsworth.

"From Indiana," Fairbanks.

"From Illinois," Sherman.

And so on. Who shall he not be?

"Has been," Root or Taft.

"No 'mighty hunter,'" T. R.

No "canonized saint or uncompromised political reformer," nobody from the "highest political court," Hughes.

This all fits in well with the Bourbon tone of the republican national committee's meeting in Washington.

So does the urgent plea that the party agree upon its candidate "before uncertain and, perhaps, ill-advised preferential primary action complicates direction of choice!"

The leaders, in short, want a red-blooded stand-up fight with these slogans:

To hell with ideas.
To hell with reform.

Let the poor man pay for preparedness.

Let the poor man pay for everything.

Up with the tariff on food and clothing.

Down with the taxes that hit the well-to-do.

Down with government shipping.—Harper's Weekly.

Vengeance.

Would that all of us might learn to put off till tomorrow the desire to get even with those who have criticized or opposed us. There are some things which can always wait; vengeance is one of them.

Selected by Tavenner



CLYDE H. TAVENNER

To the Readers of The Argus:

The Argus has generously agreed to permit me to make a regular contribution under this head, to use the space as if it were my own. I am left free to make my selection from where I will, whether it is timely or untimely; to search the highways and the byways for what may impress me as of interest and value to the people.

I assure my readers I shall try to make the most of the opportunity. To do so I must forget that party lines exist, and I will, just as I wish it might be practical for them not to exist and that the principal issue on election day might be, not whether a candidate belongs to this or that political party, but whether he is willing to serve the masses of the people or the few who exploit them.

In other words, my idea is to submit information or a thought that I would give to the world if I myself edited a newspaper, the only mission of which was to serve mankind; to do this and nothing more.

When I personally write the contribution, I will sign it, and when I present the thought and work of others I will so indicate.

CLYDE H. TAVENNER.

INHERITANCE TAX SOLUTION OF DODGING.

(By Gilson Gardner.)

Failure to collect the income tax on account of the secrecy provisions of the present law and the consequent dodging by most of the large income receivers, has driven members of congress to consider an inheritance tax to meet the need for increased revenues. Representative Cordell Hall who drew the income tax law, is said to be working on an inheritance tax bill. The great advantage of the inheritance tax is its collectability. Estates passing from the dead must go through the probate courts. As all court proceedings are public, the full estate of the deceased is necessarily the transmission of property which goes by inheritance and the public can know who pays and what is paid. It is estimated by experts that three billion dollars changes hands through death every year. Assuming half of this to be small sums—estates too small to be taxed—there would be a taxable fund of \$1,500,000,000 which, if subjected merely to a progressive rate of from one to five per cent, would yield from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 without any serious burden to the beneficiaries. Persons who get money by inheritance have little to complain of if the government reduces by taxation the amount they get. They have not worked for it, and in most cases there is little or no moral right to it. The large inheritance, particularly, could thus be reached and a five per cent impost on inheritances of \$1,000,000 and upward would work no hardship and would have some effect toward reducing the concentration of wealth. How conservative the five per cent tax is, will be seen from the fact that the United States Industrial Relations commission in its report recommended the absolute confiscation of all inheritance above one million dollars.

WAR AND AUTOMOBILES.

This bit of news given out at Wash-

ington by the department of commerce may help to explain why most of the automobile manufacturers in the United States are down on Henry Ford because he is proposing to spend a part of his great fortune in discouraging militarism.

War orders last year resulted in American automobile manufacturers doubling their foreign sales, figures made public today by the commerce department, showed.

In the year ending June 30 the totals were \$74,000,000 as compared with \$38,000,000 for the previous year. The total for the calendar year 1915 probably will reach \$120,000,000.

The last half of 1914—after the war broke out—shows a large increase over the first half.

This also shows that it is indeed an ill wind that blows nobody good. War has devastated Europe; it has resulted in the death of millions of the flower of her youth and the maiming of other millions; it has brought the whole German people to a point where their food supplies must be doled out to them as water and bread are doled out to shipwrecked mariners; it has blasted cities and laid waste hundreds of villages and farms; it has increased the debt burden of the warring peoples by scores of billions; and it has paralyzed the better impulses of countless millions of men and women in whose breasts the dearest hatreds have supplanted the kindly and generous instincts which once were so ennobling; but let it not be forgotten that while war has done all this and more, it has at the same time doubled the foreign sales of American automobiles and enabled the General Motors company to declare an initial cash dividend on its common stock of 50 per cent.

Can it be wondered that the automobile interests are nearly all enrolled in favor of "preparedness"?—Johnston (Pa.) Democrat.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From The Argus Files of 1890

Dec. 26—Dr. A. H. Arp of Moline and Miss Mattie Hardy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hardy of this city, were united in marriage at 5 o'clock yesterday morning at the parent's home, 2402 Vine street, Rev. F. H. York officiating.

Major C. W. Hawes came down from Fulton, Ill., to eat Christmas turkey at home.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Balderston of Philadelphia are holiday guests of Dr. and Mrs. G. L. Eyster.

Dec. 27—A party of local young people skating on the slough yesterday afternoon broke through the ice, but escaped with a drenching as the water is very shallow at this point.

Dec. 29—Officers of the Chicago Street Railway syndicate, which controls street car lines in the tri-city, were in the city today on a business trip. At a meeting held

this afternoon in Davenport the capital stock of the Davenport & Rock Island Railway company was raised from \$500,000 to \$750,000.

A real prize fight was staged Saturday night at the old Y. M. C. A. building in Moline, when Jack Carigan of Boston knocked out Joe Tansey of Memphis in six rounds.

Dr. E. H. Bradford of Wayne, Neb., is a guest at the home of Dr. Paul.

Dec. 30—William Bleuer was elected president of cigarmakers' union 201 at a meeting held last night.

The ferry Spencer came out of its harbor last night and is again making trips between Rock Island and Davenport.

Dec. 31—At a special election held yesterday William Payne of Rock Island was elected to the state senate from the Twenty-first senatorial district to fill a vacancy.

HEALTH TALKS
William Brady, M.D.

Gastric Ulcer

Gastric refers to the stomach, not to gas. Ulcer of the stomach occurs much more commonly than most people think, a great many cases being undiagnosed, or they are called "chronic dyspepsia," "indigestion," "acidity," or something else equally indefinite.

Ulcer in the stomach and ulcer in the abdomen—that part of the bowel just beyond the lower end of the stomach—are often distinguishable. Their symptoms, effects and treatment are very much the same.

One important factor of ulcer is some long standing trouble in the appendix or in the gall-sac. Dr. Deaver, the surgeon and author, states that he has observed an almost constant association between chronic appendicitis and gall-sac disease with gastric ulcer. And the Mayo clinic reports about 20 per cent of gastric and duodenal ulcer cases associated with disease of appendix or gall-sac.

Pyrrhoea is probably a factor in some cases.

Rosenow, the bacteriologist, has proved the causal relationship of streptococci with gastric ulcer—and streptococci find a favorable situation for propagation in the pus-pockets about bad teeth, in diseased appendix or gall-sac and elsewhere in seats of chronic or unrecognized inflammation or infection (germ activity).

Some symptoms of gastric or duo-

denal ulcer we might mention here are: (1) Periodic attacks of stomach trouble with intervening periods of comparative comfort; (2) Gnawing, burning or boring pain in the pit of the stomach and extending toward the back or perhaps downward, coming on anywhere from half an hour to two or three hours after taking food; (3) The pain is often relieved by taking some such food as milk, a cracker or a sandwich, being a hunger pain; (4) Excessive acidity (not from fermentation, but from over-secretion of the natural hydrochloric acid of the stomach in the course of digestion); (5) The appearance of blood-stained material in stomach contents.

The diagnosis of gastric or duodenal ulcer must be made by (a) symptoms, (b) test meal and analysis of expressed stomach contents, and (c) X-ray photography of the bismuth meal undergoing digestion.

The treatment depends. Moderate cases are curable by thorough medical and dietetic treatment, which means always at least four weeks in bed. Possibly a few cases respond to ambulatory treatment, but very few. In severe cases operation is indispensable. One reason why operation is advised is that something like one in every 10 cases of gastric ulcer eventually become cancers if not operated on.

CHORDS AND DISCORDS

More Editorial Grief.

Man is of few days and full of trouble, was written thousands of years ago, showing that human nature has not changed much since that time, our greatest trouble at present is want of money to get out as good a paper as we would wish. We have tried our best but have worked under difficulties having lost my two first fingers, and the other two crippled on my right, and so I cannot handle type, and as there was no one here that had any experience in that line, and for new business it makes slow work; and many mistakes, making us so late with our paper that we had no time to correct them. If we can get financial aid enough to keep going after we have a little more experience at the business we will publish a pamphlet in three chapters entitled nonsensical nonsense, either nonsensical, nonsense to believe as they do or nonsensical, nonsense to believe as we do, this to be separate from the paper and will be sold to only those that wish to buy, and read it. Subscribers will be charged 50 cents in advance for the series of the whole three chapters, each chapter will be in paper covers, and each will be sold separately if wish to buy that way. Will be copyrighted, and after pamphlet publication, will be sold in book form. Anyone wishing to subscribe can send in the 50 cents, and we will credit you with the amount. That will help us get out the pamphlets sooner.—Bancroft (Wis.) Independent.

She Has Her Points.
Behold the old, pot-bellied mare
Who stands beside the stack,
She is not steam-lined anywhere;
She has a sagging back.
The hair is worn from off her sides
Where tug and trace have been;
Profound disgust with life abides
About that pendant chin.

Her dragged fetlocks reek with mud,
Her tail is full of burrs;
No pride of race or purple blood
Or Blue-grass sires is hers.
Her sturdy pasterns, nit-bestrewn,
Have blemishes galore;
Thru chaff-filled mane the breezes
Each shoulder bears a sore.

But she has never cast a tire;
Her starter always works;
Her spark-plug never fails to fire,
Her timer never shirks;
Her oil-gauge plunger never sticks,
And ne'er has she, I ween,
Five miles from home, or maybe six,
Run out of gasoline!

—Strickland Gillilan.

Pointed Paragraphs.

Any coward can get married, but it may take a hero to stay married.

Seven quarts to the peck is the way some grocers measure their success.

It's impossible to suppress the man who thinks he can tell a funny story.

The journey of life is tiresome—a man is out of breath when he reaches the end of it.

The average woman can make as much fuss over another woman's baby as if she really and truly meant it.

Missouri court has decided that Sunday newspapers are legal, but this is no endorsement of the colored supplement.

A self-made man never ceases to praise his maker.

You can easily convince the loser that it is wrong to gamble.

The wise woman marries for protection as well as for revenue.

Sometimes matrimony turns love's sweet dream into nightmare.

It's easier for a woman to fool any man than it is to keep him fooled.

Charity covers a multitude of poor people with second hand and worn out garments.

Some men who are too slow to do the courting are married by strenuous widows.

Nature leaves a lot of work for the dressmaker to finish.

Judge a man by what he does and a woman by what she doesn't say.

Most men would be content with their lot—if it were a lot of money.

Remember that the money you intend to save doesn't draw any interest.

Age may not be garrulous, but it is sure to tell on a woman sooner or later.

She is indeed a wise woman who knows when to stop talking and turn on the flow of tears.

The man who plays cards for fun may get it—but the other fellow gets the money.

But when it takes a young man 15 minutes to assist a girl to put on her jacket she is neither his sister by birth or refusal.—Chicago News.

A Greeting Play.

(B. L. T. in the Chicago Tribune).

Mother—Line up, children. The doctor must not be delayed. (She distributes another dozen handkerchiefs.)

Children (lining up)—Ah-h-h cashoo-o-o!

Papa—Sneeze if you must, but don't say "CASH-o-o-o" in front of the doctor.

Mother—Ushy-ushy-ah-hoo-o-o!

Grown Sister (who contributes to the Line)—Goodness! Would you listen to mother; she has a new one. Where d'ye get that "ushy-ushy"?

Papa (using atomizer)—Oh, cut the comedy. This is terrible—right after Christmas, too.

Doc (entering, and speaking boresomely)—Arrumph! Good mor—Hatch-o-o! Got it in the same place as (Distributes bottles, atomizers, pills, capsules, wrist-warmers, foot warmer bottles, and takes temperatures. No change today. Tells them he has 70 new cases—what cares?)

Doc (departing)—Hatch-o-o! Hatch-o-o-o! (He bows).

Family (bowing)—Cashoo-o-o! Ushy-hoo! Uch-utch-ahoo-o!

(Sterilized curtain.)

J. M. C.

The Daily Story

He Showed Them How To Do It.—By Donald Chamberlin.

During the latter part of the last century a great deal of whisky was distilled in the Tennessee mountains on which no tax was paid. One day a man appeared among the government officials who were endeavoring to hunt down a man named Hardwick, who had been for some time running a still concealed in the mountains and had thus far defied every effort on the part of the officials to trap him.

"What's the matter with you fellows?" said the newcomer, "that you haven't got Hardwick? He's got to be taken and right away."

"All right, Mr. Barker," said Williams, the man addressed; "we'll do the job under your direction. Lead on."

Half a dozen men having been collected for the purpose, Barker started up the mountain side, followed by the others, and after a long and difficult ascent came upon a woman sitting on a rock crying bitterly.

"What's the matter?" asked Barker. "Matter? Matter enough. Look a-yere." Pulling up her sleeve, she showed a welt that had evidently been made by a lash.

"Who did that?" asked Barker. "My husband."

"Who is your husband?" "Jim Hardwick."

Barker opened his eyes and looked knowingly at his men.

"Where is Hardwick?" he asked the woman.

"Reckon he's gone up to the"—She checked herself. "Who air you uns anyway?"

"I don't mind your knowing that we're revenue men, and we're going to get Jim Hardwick dead or alive!"

The woman stopped crying and looked fixedly at the men.

"I don't want you to kill him," she said, "hut—"

"You mean," said Barker, "that you'd like to see him punished for his treatment of you?"

"Reckon I would."

"I'll tell you what I'll do. You help us get him and we'll give you \$100."

The woman's face took on a covetous look. Barker followed up his advantage. "Show us the way to the still and keep him talking till we can surround it."

"What'll you do with him?" "We'll turn him over to you."

He counted out ten crisp treasury notes and handed them to the woman. She took them hesitatingly, as though she did not quite like the job.

Half an hour later the revenue men, led by the woman, had come to a ravine. She paused and said: "The still's up thar. If you uns stop this end of the ravin' he can't git out; you got him shore." Barker dashed forward,

ordering the others to follow. Williams called to him to wait a moment—perhaps the woman was deceiving them—but Barker paid no attention to him, and he went on with the rest. They found the climbing difficult, but pushed on, Barker displaying an energy that put the rest to shame. Williams alone hung back, bringing up the rear. But nothing like a still appeared. Then the men began to tire of the difficult climb and one by one fell to the rear. Barker, coming to a perpendicular cliff, stopped, waiting till the others came up. Nothing was said till Williams joined them.

"Waal?" he said doubtfully.

"Where's the woman?" asked Barker. "All looked about for her, but she was not to be seen."

"I tell you, Mr. Barker," said Williams, "where I reckon she is."

"Where?"

"With that hundred dollars you give her. And I reckon the hundred dollars is whar she still is. And I don't reckon the still is in this yere ravine neither."

There was an ominous silence.

"I reckon," said Williams, "that we uns might as well go home. Before we could find the still—and I reckon we couldn't—the bull thing would be cleaned out